

April 19, 1999

Re: Docket # 98P-0151/CP1

9 3 9 8 '99 APR 21 19:57

Dockets Management Branch  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Room 1-23  
12420 Parklawn Drive  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dockets Management Branch,

I am writing as a supporter of the petition filed by Farm Sanctuary and Michael Bauer calling for explicit labeling of downed animals as adulterated.

Especially disconcerting to me is the fact that weak and sick animals are further tortured by being shackled, hoisted and dragged by tractors and forklifts to be slaughtered. It's a revolting image to me. Why the senselessness of this? How can the tractor and forklift operators possibly perform this kind of work on a regular basis knowing full well that they, too may be consuming products "produced" under these conditions?

It's horrid enough to learn about the animals that suffer (needlessly) from broken bones, torn tendons and lacerations from this inhumane handling. What's more – the fact that many of these downed animals harbor diseases - diseases that are passed on and may jeopardize human health!

Please, use the power that you represent to stop this from happening. Change the existing framework of the USDA regulations that state that downed animals NOT be marketed and stop their suffering and the threat to human health as well.

Thank you for making a difference,

  
Jennifer C. Sarkisian

98P-0151

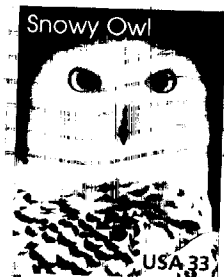
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Rockville MD 20857